

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-14 RSC-01 DRC-01

ISO-00 HUD-02 AID-20 CEQ-02 CIAE-00 COA-02 COME-00

DODE-00 EB-11 EPA-04 INR-10 L-03 NSF-04 NSC-07

NSAE-00 PM-07 SCI-06 SS-20 SP-03 FEA-02 OIC-04 PA-04

PRS-01 USIA-15 /220 W

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R 212316Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4607

INFO USUN NEW YORK 558

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

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E O 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV

SUBJ: UNEP: CG II, RECOMMENDATION FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF INTER-NATIONAL HABITAT AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS FOUNDATION (IHHSF) - ECOSOC CONSIDERATION

REF: STATE 125957

1. FROM MANILA WE SEE THREE DISTINCT POSITIONS OF SUBSTANCE UNEP RESOLUTION CONTAINED IN REPORT OF GC II ON REF SUBJECT: (A) SEVERAL DELEGATIONS, INCLUDING PROMINENT REPS FROM NON-ALIGNED GROUP, FAVOR EARLY MERGER OF CENTER WITH IHHSF. THEIR CASE MUCH AS OURS BUILT ON EFFICIENCY, ECONOMY, AND RESEARCH COMMITMENT TO RATIONALIZING UN SYSTEM; (B) OTHER DELEGATIONS AMONG GROUP OF 77, AND NO DOUBT PROMPTED BY OFFICIALS OF ESA, TAKE A GO-SLOW ATTITUDE AND ARE SOMEWHAT DUBIOUS ABOUT TOTAL SUMERGENCE CENTER FOR HOUSING, BUILDING, AND PLANNING INTO NEW FOUNDATION. UNDOUBTEDLY CANADIANS ARE PROMINENT PROPONENTS THIS POSITION; (C) THE THIRD GROUP IS CONTENDING THAT WHILE THE FOUNDATION SHOULD BE ACTIVATED AFTER THE

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29TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, NO BINDING DECISIONS SHOULD BE TAKEN

PRIOR TO CONFEX 76. THIS IS VIEWPOINT SURFACED BY FORMER CENTER DIRECTOR CROOKS. HE ARGUES THAT IF FOUNDATION ACTIVATED AND CENTER INAUGURATED PRIOR TO CONFEX, MANY MINISTERIAL LEVEL REPS AT THE VANCOUVER CONFERENCE WILL FEEL IMPELLED TO TAKE FURTHER TANGIBLE MEASURES TO GIVE MEANING TO CONFEX. CROOKS REGARDS THIS POSSIBILITY AS A THREAT TO CONTINUED SUPPORT OF POTENTIAL DONOR STATES SUCH AS US, FRANCE, AND USSR.

2. SO FAR, AND IN ABSENCE OF BONNICK OF JAMAICA, WHO IS NO LONGER POSTED AT NEW YORK, WE FIND LITTLE EVIDENCE THAT ANY DELEGATIONS HERE HAVE GIVEN MUCH THOUGHT TO WHETHER DEFINITIVE DECISION SHOULD BE TAKEN AT THE 57TH SESSION OF ECOSOC. IN FACT, FRENCH AND USSR REPS HERE NOT THOROUGHLY FAMILIAR WITH PROLONGED NEGOTIATIONS AT NAIROBI.

3. IT IS CLEAR THAT IF USG PROPOSES TO PRESS FOR EXPEDITIOUS RESOLUTION PRESENT SITUATION, WE NEED WELL HONED SCENARIO AT GENEVA AND ADDITIONALLY MANPOWER THOROUGHLY CONVERSANT WITH INTRICATE DETAILS NAIROBI GCII NEGOTIATIONS. IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO ENTRUST UNTA ACTIVITIES PRESENTLY EXECUTED BY CENTER TO FUNDS PROBABLY UNDER SMALL HIGHLY COMPETENT MANAGEMENT STAFF. SUCH A POSTURE WOULD FORESTALL PROLONGED DEBATE ON WHERE TA PROGRAM SHOULD GO (E.G., UNIDO, UNDP, OR POSSIBLY ILO); AND ADVANTAGE FOUNDATION OF OVERHEAD PAYMENTS FROM UNDP WHICH AVERAGE OVER ONE MILLION DOLLARS PER YEAR. SINCE THESE FUNDS CONSIDERABLY IN EXCESS OF TA PROGRAM, MANAGEMENT COST EFFECT WOULD BE SUBSIDY TO FOUNDATION AND TO FURTHER FORESTALL ENCROACHMENT UPON UNEP VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS.

4. WE UNDERSTAND THAT SYG HAS FIRMLY COMMITTED PRESENT D II DIRECTORATE OF CENTER FOR HOUSING, BUILDING, AND PLANS TO AFRICANS AND FURTHER THAT DESEYNES USING THIS COMMITMENT AS PRIMARY ARGUMENT AGAINST TRANSFER ABOLITION OF CENTER. IF SUCH A FINAL DECISION IS TO BE FORESTALLED, IT WOULD REQUIRE MODIFICATION OF COMMITMENT WHICH ALLEGEDLY MADE TO AFRICAN GROUP.

5. FYI: THERE IS CONSIDERABLE RESENTMENT OF THIS COMMITMENT AMONG SEVERAL DELEGATIONS, NON-AFRICAN, AND INDEED AMONG AFRICANS THAT THEY ARE BEING SERVED A DEAD HORSE. IT COULD BE PERSUASIVELY ARGUED THAT THE SYG SHOULD ACCOMMODATE ALLEGED DIFFICIENCIES IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SENIOR APPOINTMENTS OF AFRICAN PERSONNEL ELSEWHERE IN THE SYSTEM. IT IS ALSO TRUE THAT THIS ARGUMENT IS SOMEWHAT WEAKENED BY THE EMERGENCE OF M'BOW AS DG OF UNESCO AND DJERIMIKOYE AS COMMISSIONER FOR TA.

6. BELIEVE THAT FUTURE OF COMMITTEE ON HOUSING, BUILDING, AND PLANNING CAN BEST BE HANDLED IN COURSE OF RATIONALIZATION ITEM SLATED FOR CONSIDERATION NEXT MONTH AT GENEVA. BY AND LARGE

ATTITUDE OF LEADING EXPERTS ON RATIONALIZATION PRESENT HERE IS ONE
OF RELATIVE INDIFFERENCE PARTICULARLY SINCE CROOKS NO LONGER ENDANGERED

BY ACTIONS ASKING EITHER COMMITTEE OR CENTER. THE DEPARTMENT WILL
RECALL THAT CENTER WAS THE ISSUE USED BY TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO TO STAVE
EARLIER NEAR SUCCESSFUL EFFORTS IN RESPECT OF BOTH THE COMMITTEE
AND THE CENTER. SULLIVAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLLUTION, AGREEMENTS, ESTABLISHMENT, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, IHHSF, INTL HABITAT & SETTLEMENTS FOUNDNS, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974MANILA07456
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740164-1050
From: MANILA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740625/aaaaauvy.tel
Line Count: 122
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 125957
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 MAR 2002 by collinp0>; APPROVED <09 MAY 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNEP: CG II, RECOMMENDATION FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF INTER- NATIONAL HABITAT AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS FOUNDATION (IHHSF) -
TAGS: SENV, XX, UNEP, UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005